

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3, 8-10, 14, 24, 30, 34, and 35 are presently active in this case, Claims 2, 8, 9, 10, 14, 24, 30, and 34 having been amended, Claim 1 having been canceled, and Claim 35 having been added by the present amendment, Claims 4-7, 11-13, 15-23, 25-29 and 31-33 having previously been canceled.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite; and Claims 1-3, 8-10, 14, 24, 30, and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over USP 6,275,239 to Ezer.

In response to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, it is noted that Claim 1 has canceled and replaced by new Claim 35 drafted to avoid indefinite expression, to clarify the claimed invention, and thereby to more clearly patentably define over the cited prior art. New Claim 35 finds support in the original specification, for example at page 13, line 5 to page 14, last line; page 15, last line to page 16, line 5; page 22, line 25 to page 23, line 9; and page 25, line 26 to page 26, line 8. No new matter has been added.

As stated in new Claim 35, the claimed audio processor includes, in part:

...

a control processor configured to execute the program transferred to the instruction memory along with a progress of each of the processes, and request, while continuing a process which is currently executed, audio data and a program that are required for a next process to the DMA controller; and

a coprocessor configured to increase performance of reconstruction of the audio data obtained via the control processor according to the program given by the control processor, and execute multiplication/accumulation addition according to VLIW (Very Long Instruction Word);

wherein the control processor controls in such a manner that when a k-th (k is integer) process is started, the content of the data memory unnecessary

for the k-th process out of a k-1-th process results is saved in the external memory, the program required for a k+1-th process and data are transferred to the instruction memory and the data memory from the external memory.

Thus, as claimed, data and a program required for the next processing is prepared in advance while continuing the processing which is currently performed and the data unnecessary for the k-th process is displaced from the data memory to the external memory. The program and data required for a k+1-th process are displaced from the external memory to the instruction memory and the data memory. As a consequence, the claimed audio processor can decrease the memory capacity required for performing audio process with respect to the audio data. Further, the coprocessor is configured to increase performance of reconstruction of the audio data obtained via the control processor according to the program given by the control processor, and execute multiplication/accumulation addition according to VLIW (Very Long Instruction Word).

It is respectfully submitted that the above features of new Claim 35 are neither disclosed by, nor rendered obvious over, Ezer. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new Claim 35 patentably defines over Ezer and is allowable. The remaining claims depend from new Claim 35 and thus are also believed to be allowable.

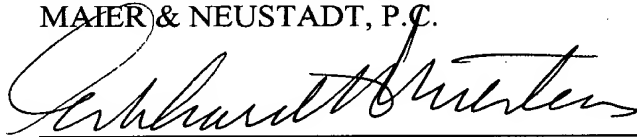
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above comments, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be

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in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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